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Skating Club smiles

Minden Skating Club skaters' hard work paid off at the Huntsville Skokie Skate competition on Jan. 21. From left, Evelyn Vanderstarre, Keetyn Mills, Annika Gervais, Kinsley Murdoch, and Freja Neumann show gold, silver, and bronze ribbons received in elements, dance, and solo performances. Missing from the photo are Ava Allaire, Paislee Cylbuski, Olivia Fitzell, and Alana Smith. See more photos on page 8. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Council unhappy with arena snack bar construction cost

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Almost half a million dollars for an arena concession stand.

You read that correctly.

You'd be reasonable to expect to nosh gourmet hot dogs with some snazzy mustard

from such an establishment.

Minden Hills township council heard during its Jan. 26 regular meeting that just one company made an offer on a call for tenders to build a concession stand at the new S.G. Nesbitt Memorial Arena and Minden Hills Community Centre.

MVW Construction & Engineering Inc.

quoted \$423,554.51 to do the work.

The thing is, the township projected to borrow \$360,000 for the design and construction of the concession stand.

"The result of our tender wasn't very tender," quipped Mayor Bob Carter just before council tucked into discussion on the matter.

A request for tender (RFT) was issued Oct.

26 to solicit bids for the supply and renovation of the concession stand at the arena. The window to submit a bid closed Nov. 23.

Only MVW Construction & Engineering Inc. attended a Nov. 8 mandatory site meeting, making them the only firm eligible to bid on the project.

see MAYOR page 2

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Mayor Carter 'not happy' with concession stand price

from page 1

"I'm not happy," Carter said. "I don't know that anybody is happy. It's unfortunate that the design was done in the way it was done."

Councillor Tammy McKelvey said the snack bar is going to be run by a private party with the proceeds to go into their pocket. And, with nothing in the 2022 budget for the concession stand, the town intended to borrow \$300,000.

"I'm prepared to rip the Band-aid off here," McKelvey said. "We cannot afford a snack bar in an arena that's already put us in very difficult financial (straits)."

"I don't want to spend any more staff time. That's my opinion."

Coun. Ivan Ingram suggested council allow another year before making a decision.

"That's a huge number to look at, considering all the things we've put off the past few years," he said. "We've got bigger fish to fry."

McDonald Brothers Construction Inc. (MBC) declined to bid. MBC provided the original budget forecasting for the project.

McDonald Brothers, who did the original construction of the facility, expressed that they could not fit the project into their time-

line," said Craig Belfry, the town's community services director.

He described three options staff believe would get the job done.

Belfry said the first option is to re-tender the project with revised timelines and a reduced scope. A second option is to accept the submission by MVW and increase the budget. A third route would be to reduce components and design to bring the project in budget if possible.

Staff have found that projects are seeing increases in costs. High prices in supplies and construction expenses are driving costs higher.

Opting to retender the project and reduce the project's scope will add design fees and additional time to the project. And Belfry said there is no guarantee that, by the time the new scope gets tendered, construction fees will not have increased.

Retendering the project without changing the scope may have legal ramifications, he said.

Belfry said township staff recommends reducing the concession stand's components and changing its design in order to whittle down the project cost.

Carter said he doesn't want to give up on

the snack bar and he believes the township should pursue the third option suggested by staff.

"I recognize that, if we had put in the snack bar in the beginning, it would have increased the cost who knows how much, but it would've all been lumped in to that total," Carter said.

The MVW proposal included \$125,000 for equipment, including \$40,000 each for two ventless fryers, and \$60,000 for electrical work.

Ventless fryers are required as a conventional commercial hood fan will not fit in the space, as per the building code. Other equipment include commercial grade fridges, beverage dispensers, warming ovens, heated display cabinets, popcorn machine, hot dog roller, dollies, and food warmers.

Belfry said the cost for electrical work is quite high because the hookup is at the other end of the arena. The installation has to stretch across the building to the rear arena area, as sufficient power load sourcing was not installed for this area during the initial construction.

Deputy Mayor Lisa Schell requested Belfry work with the company to try to lower the cost.

"I'd hate to throw the baby out with the bath water," she said. "I don't want to spend any more money on this, but we can't have an arena without a snack bar. Or some kind of an option for food."

To simplify everything, Ingram broached the option of installing vending machines.

Coun. Pam Sayne said \$423,554.51 is too much to pay, given the municipality's other needs.

"It seems with all the technology in the world, we could spend a lot less to boil a hot dog and serve it," Sayne said.

Belfry said vending machines could be considered as part of a smaller design. He also said the kitchen equipment suggested in the tender could be changed.

"You can go as basic as cupboards, three sinks to meet the health code, and countertop appliances," he said. "You can't eliminate some equipment."

Coun. Shirley Johannessen lobbied for the use of a food truck that can be parked at the arena and used for various events throughout the town.

In the end, a motion to receive the department report as information and to direct staff to work with the contractor to lower the cost was defeated.

Shoreline bylaw impacts all municipalities

by JAMES MATTHEWS

Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County is on its way toward a fine-tuned version of the contentious Shoreline Preservation Bylaw.

County council held a special meeting to discuss the bylaw Jan. 30. The special meeting was basically for the edification of the new council elected last October. But a number of issues were identified and discussed about the shoreline bylaw's current draft.

Steve Stone, the county's director of planning, will return to council in February with an updated proposed bylaw for consideration.

Three of the four lower tier municipalities have accepted the Shoreline Preservation Bylaw. Dysart is the holdout township.

Councillor Murray Fearrey, who is also the mayor of Dysart, said he's been in Haliburton County for almost 40 years, and he's never seen a council issue as controversial at the Shoreline Preservation Bylaw.

"And I think it's because it appears that it's complicated to understand," he said. "And it appears that it's kind of infringing on the people's rights that they traditionally had."

He said there's been a lot of miscommunication around the issue. And there's nothing personal against the county at the heart of why Dysart's council has yet to accept the legislation.

"I don't think I've ever voted against anything I thought was for the greater good of the county," Fearrey said.

Coun. Walt McKechnie, Dysart's deputy mayor, assured Dysart residents that he and the mayor aren't putting their heads in the sand on the issue. They've discussed the bylaw in depth.

"We're very positive about the direction we might be going in," McKechnie said.

Warden Liz Danielsen, the mayor of Algonquin Highlands, agreed that the bylaw has spawned the most controversy of any issue she's experienced. Some of the reaction to the bylaw may be indicative of a sea change in the electorate Canada-wide.

"It has created a reaction that I've found rather surprising," she said. "I didn't realize that there was such a nasty underbelly to the county."

"It's there and it seems to me that it's something that's pervasive across the country and it's unfortunate."

Coun. Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, said his municipality is just downriver from Dysart. Anything that happens there has bearing on Minden, he said.

"Not every optimal solution is going to be perfect," he said, and added that nothing will be accomplished if the end goal is perfection.

Carter said the regulations associated with the bylaw is what's important. That's all "legal-speak" that typically isn't of interest to members of the general public.

People, as with other bylaws, are concerned about how the shoreline preservation rules will be applied, he said.

Coun. Cecil Ryall, deputy mayor of Highlands East, said he supports some kind of accreditation or licensing for contractors, something that says they know the ins and outs of the requirements of shoreline preservation.

Likewise, he suggested something similar could be done for property owners on lakefronts. In his own case, Ryall said he built his own home: Everything from the septic system, to electrical, and plumbing.

"There's a few more inspections you have to go through when you're doing it as a private citizen, but it can be done," he said.

He would've benefited from an instructional course on how to effectively build a house. It could include all the intricacies of legalities that apply to building.

"I'm hoping that when we do this, we set it up so that the average citizen can also get educated and allowed to do the job," Ryall said.

Fearrey said he's seen in recent years many contractors based outside the county doing work at local properties.

"It's not just locals that do this," Fearrey said.

And that could complicate a certification process.

Danielsen said the shoreline preservation bylaw needs to have teeth regarding its enforcement. Penalties for infractions

of other bylaws such as the Shoreline Tree Preservation Bylaw aren't effective deterrents, she said.

"Wealthy people developing their property don't care about a \$900 fine," said Danielsen. "They're more than willing to pay the fee and carry on with what they want to do."

Stone said that, when it comes to setting ticket fines, the county is at the whim of the judge who is reviewing the offences.

"But, yes. It's not a large sum for the total destruction of the shoreline," Stone said of the tree bylaw fine.

Should the violation be severe enough and the shoreline's destruction dramatic enough, he said the county could go before a judge and ask that the violator be summoned to answer for the infraction.

"In that realm, you do have opportunities for larger sums," Stone said. "For a private individual, it could be as high as \$50,000. For a corporation, it's \$100,000."

Another avenue to a more effective penalty would be a court-ordered rehabilitation of the shoreline.

Coun. Jennifer Dailloux, deputy mayor of Algonquin Highlands, said the bylaw is a planning instrument. That makes it a document that regulates development.

"It's something that offers structure around how development goes forward," Dailloux said. "So, for me, education, incentives, social pressure, all of those softer yet perhaps even more crucial elements, they belong here. But I don't see them as belonging in this bylaw itself."

Those objectives would be affixed to a more comprehensive lake health program.

"We can put a lot of emphasis on behaviour change," she said. "And behaviour change is something that can't exist in a bylaw."

Ryall agreed the education component of the bylaw's promotion to the public needs to go ahead.

Danielsen said more needs to be done to encourage property owners to restore the shoreline properties that have been damaged.

"Those are the sorts of things that need some creativity," she said. "We're all struggling with a budget that's challenging. It's my experience that incentives cost money."

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Debate continues about short-term rental regulations

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County is a little closer to a framework to govern short-term property rentals in the lower-tier municipalities.

It's an initiative started during the last term of council and it was discussed by the current administration Jan. 25 during its public meeting. Council directed staff to come back with a report based on council discussion that will result in a final draft bylaw to regulate short-term rentals (STR). The final draft will be forwarded to the lower tier municipalities for consideration.

Stephen Stone, the county's planning director, likened the work done in the last term to a fact-finding mission to gauge how many business operators would like to register their short-term rental property as a business.

The project was initiated in summer 2022 by the previous county council. Consultants J.L. Richards (JLR) prepared a report on the issue called Haliburton County Short-Term Rental Review.

The review provided insight into the short-term rental accommodation policies for comparator municipalities. It included a summary of public consultation with various stakeholder groups. And the report suggested framework options for STR regulations and licensing to be considered by council.

"The previous council actually suggested they look at a couple of local examples that were very close to Haliburton County," Stone said. "Lake of Bays is one that stands out as one that the previous council asked for them to explore."

The final report tabled in October included two draft bylaws.

The first was a draft registration bylaw which would require rental operators to reg-

ister their STR in the near term in order to determine their impact on Haliburton's lakes.

The second was a draft licensing bylaw which had the effect of regulating STRs over the long term. The municipalities would have to develop a definition for short-term rentals and include it in zoning bylaws, Stone said.

"Trying to develop a definition for a zoning bylaw and have it approved by council and then approved by the Ontario Lands Tribunal is certainly a challenge," he said.

Operators will be responsible for such things as demonstrating their septic systems are fine and their properties conform to building and fire codes.

"That all would involve area municipal staff support," Stone said. "That, too, would just further complicate this licensing bylaw."

Councillor Murray Fearrey, mayor of Dysart, said there are a number of things that become nuisance concerns for neighbours of rented properties. Those include just what you'd imagine related to the behaviours of people renting the property.

"I think we should deal with those," Fearrey said. "We've got two-bedroom cottages sleeping 14 [people] and seven and eight cars in the parking lot with dogs running all over the place."

"Those are the things that need to go into this bylaw. Let's keep it as simple and enforceable as we can."

Warden Liz Danielsen, Algonquin Highlands' mayor, said she realizes such rentals contribute to the county economy. But she's concerned about the impact on the county's housing stock.

"It's just horrendous," she said.

Coun. Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, suggested a framework of regulations be developed at the county level that could then be adopted by the lower tier municipalities.

Each township would cap the number of licenses that would be granted, he said.

Rental establishments are proposed to be sorted into three classes based on number of properties operated by owners and the number of nights rented per year. Fees range from \$250 for a class A license, which would govern the operation of one STR, to \$750 for a

class C license for the operation of three or more STRs.

Carter said those fees are too low. Short-term rentals in some locations charge as much as \$10,000 a weekend, he said.

"There's a lot of money in this," Carter said.



Spaghetti with a side of smiles

Minden Lions Club members Patti Smith, Suzanne Best, and Jimmy Donaldson serve hot spaghetti with homemade sauce on the fourth Friday of every month out of the Lions Hall in Minden. For more information on the Lions, contact 705-286-3233. /photo by Emily Stonehouse staff

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(VIRTUAL) COUNCIL MEETINGS

Council and Closed Session meetings are currently being conducted with a hybrid model of in-person and electronic participation in accordance with the Municipal Act. Members of the Public will participate electronically, until further notice. Meetings begin at 9:00 AM unless otherwise noted. The schedule of upcoming meetings are:

February 2 – Special Council Meeting – 2023 Budget
February 9 – Regular Council Meeting

February 16 – Special Council Meeting/Public Meeting – 2023 Budget

Members of the Public are invited to observe Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link available on the township website at mindenhills.ca/council/ or by using the direct link provided in the notice. Meeting agendas are not displayed during the meeting; please download by visiting our website at mindenhills.ca/council/. Please note the live stream file/video will be available to the public for the duration of one week after the Council Meeting.

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FOOD WASTE REDUCTION

According to a report completed by the National Zero Waste Council in 2022, 63% of the food Canadians throw away, could have been eaten. For the average Canadian, that can be up to \$1300 worth of food wasted every year! Try meal planning, preparing smaller portions and consuming leftovers as ways to reduce your food waste in your home.

SUMMER STUDENTS WANTED!

Do you know a student who is looking for a great summer job? We are currently accepting resumes for Summer Students for our Community Services Department in Parks and for the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. Positions are for a 16-week period from May to August. Rate of pay is \$15.50/hour. Please visit our website at www.mindenhills.ca/careers for more information and how to apply.

A MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE DEPARTMENT

To avoid frostbite and hypothermia before you venture outside be sure to check the temperature and limit your time outside if it's very cold, wet or windy. Bundle up in several layers of loose clothing, wear mittens rather than gloves, cover your head and ears with a warm hat and wear socks that keep your feet warm and dry.

CULTURAL CENTRE UP-COMING EVENTS

Valentine's Candle-Making Workshop in partnership with Snuff Candle Co. at the Minden Hills Cultural Centre on Saturday, February 11 from 1-3 pm. All supplies included. Price is \$45 per person; pre-registration is required.

Visit the Agnes Jamieson Gallery this winter to view a selection of artwork from our permanent collection featuring renowned artist André Lapine. The Gallery is currently open Tuesday to Saturday from 10 am – 4 pm. Admission is by donation.

For more information or to register please call 705-286-3763 x 542 or email culturalcentre@mindenhills.ca. The Minden Hills Cultural Centre is located at 176 Bobcaygeon Road, Minden.

2023 DRAFT BUDGET NOTICE – 2023 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

The Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will commence its 2023 Budget deliberations during its Special Council Meeting scheduled on February 2, 2023. The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers, located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING 2023 DRAFT BUDGET

TAKE NOTICE that the Council of the Corporation of the Township of Minden Hills will be holding a Public Meeting on Thursday, February 16, 2023, during its Special Council Meeting regarding the Draft 2023 Budget. The meeting will commence at 9:00 AM in the Council Chambers located at 7 Milne Street, Minden ON.

Greg Bedard, Director of Finance/Treasurer • 705-286-1260 ext. 504 • gbedard@mindenhills.ca

Chaulk full of local pride

by EMILY STONEHOUSE

Editor

When something is done with pride, it makes a world of difference. And that is what Trevor Chaulk, founding president of Chaulk, has. Pride in the company. Pride in the product. Pride in the team. Pride in the community.

Chaulk beamed as he toured a group of community stakeholders around the Chaulk facility on Jan. 26 during the launch of the official rebrand for the company. Many will remember that the company was founded with the name "Chaulk Woodworking" over 13 years ago. Yet, as the company continued to grow and evolve, Chaulk noted that the products started to shift as well. "We had to be a bit of a chameleon in Haliburton County," he said to the *Times*, "we kind of did everything, but as a result, no one really knew what we did."

He noted that the purpose of the rebrand – which was spearheaded by the Voima Group marketing agency – was to really hone in on what they do, which is custom cabinetry that is high quality, cost efficient, and prepared and delivered quickly. "We are really looking to change the narrative of cabinets," said Chaulk, "and we want to cater to the new wants and desires from clients."

Chaulk shared that there has been a shift in how individuals are renovating, with customers now wanting to primarily shop online, and "do their homework from the home," he said. The company has been growing exponentially over the years, and have steadily adapted to the changes as they come, including the pandemic years. "We took 2019 and 2020 to really slow down what we were doing, and clean up our process," Chaulk shared with the *Times*, "so between 2019 and 2021, we had grown over 100 per cent."

While work hadn't always been easy for the company; between floods and a challenging chapter during the pandemic, Chaulk said that he was able to navigate around the hurdles by thinking outside the box. This included the creations of the "just in time" cabinet manufacturing, which allowed his team to keep up with demand, and effectively use the space they have to its full potential. "A lot of things were happening, things were changing, but we were always working with the big picture in mind," he said.

With its rapid growth and ability to keep up with the ever-changing needs of the industry, Chaulk is still expand-



Trevor Chaulk guides a tour of local stakeholders around the newly rebranded Chaulk facility, located at 11431 Highway 35 in Minden. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff

ing in new ways. "This is just what Trevor does," laughed Angela Chaulk, co-founder of the early days of Chaulk Woodworking, "once he gets to the next step, he always wants to go one step further." She also shared that the two of them spent a significant amount of time traveling across the country, and observing cabinetry shops from coast to coast. "It was a huge learning experience, and an opportunity for us to take what we learned and apply it to our own business."

The newest endeavour for Chaulk is a shift to e-commerce; a program they are hoping to launch this year. Chaulk said he noticed the shift to online interests, and hopes to capture the wants and needs of those looking to invest digitally.

Beyond a focus on their own local business, Chaulk shared that he carries an immense amount of pride for the community. "With our business, one of the big things we want to see is how much money can we bring into our area?" He alluded to

the fact that it is no secret that there are issues with housing, job opportunities, staffing shortages, and consistent money in the local economy year-round. He hopes that with the continued expansion and evolution of Chaulk, he is able to support locals who want to be in the area. This initiative includes launching a hiring campaign where they are targeting anyone with an interest in working, and offering full training so that they can feel safe, competent, and successful in the world of cabinet manufacturing. No experience required.

Through it all – the growth, the rebrand, the expansion, the state-of-the-art cabinets – Chaulk's number one priority is always the people. Supporting the community, supporting the team, and supporting the next steps they can take together; that is the drive behind Chaulk.

For more information, visit www.shopchaulk.com

OPP investigate collision between snowmobile and motor vehicle

On Jan. 26, 2023, members of the Haliburton Highlands OPP and emergency crews responded to a collision on County Road 21 and OFSC trail B103 in the Municipality of Dysart et al. The collision was reported to have occurred at approximately 4:41 pm. One person was transported to a medical facility for treatment of minor

injuries.

As a result of this investigation, a 16-year-old young person has been charged with disobey sign under the Motorized Snow Vehicle Act.

Haliburton Highlands OPP is requesting any witnesses who have information about this collision, including dash camera footage and have not yet spoken to police, to contact the detachment at 705-286-1431 or 1-888-310-1122.

Snowmobilers are reminded to use caution at all times. Snowmobiling is an off-road activity that occurs in an unpredictable and uncontrollable natural environment. The OPP is committed to saving lives on Ontario's highways, trails and waterways through the reduction of preventable injury and death.

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County's growth is ahead of expectations

by JAMES MATTHEWS
Local Journalism Initiative Reporter

Haliburton County has already exceeded what was forecasted to be its housing needs by 2036.

The thing is, it's only 2023.

And, as of the 2021 census, the county is at about 80 per cent of what it was thought the population count would be by 2036.

That was the situation described by Jamie Cook, a managing partner with Watson and Associates Economists Ltd., when county council met Jan. 25. He outlined the parameters of what would be considered in a comprehensive review of the county demographics done by Watson and Associates.

County council awarded the firm a \$60,000 contract to launch a development charges study.

"We're far ahead of what the anticipated numbers were, which is going to require us to do a bit of additional work," said Warden Liz Danielsen, who is the mayor of Algonquin Highlands.

Since the release of its 2017 Official Plan, Haliburton County has been experiencing significantly stronger growth pressure than previously anticipated.

The 2021 census results indicate that the county is at about 80 per cent of its 2036 population forecast. And the county has exceeded that housing forecast.

"As a result of these recent growth pressures, there's a need to update the county's long-term population, housing, and employment forecast," Cook said.

The results of the comprehensive review growth forecast will form a foundational document that will inform the update to the county's Development Charges Background Study [DCBS] currently underway, and the county's Official Plan [OP] update which is anticipated to commence in the near term.

The county is an attractive destination for retirees and people who wish to be seasonal residents at cottage properties.

"This also has an impact on how the county is growing, both with respect to its permanent population and its seasonal population base," Cook said.

The Watson and Associates population model will forecast both the seasonal and permanent population growth by age, he said. And that will paint a picture of Haliburton's housing needs by type and density, affordability, and tenure.

Cook said the information will ultimately be a foundation for future studies such as the county's long-term affordable housing needs.

Key tasks the firm would probe in its comprehensive review include a community structure analysis; a demographic, economic and socio-economic profile with an assessment of growth drivers; forecasts for long-term population, household and employment; and the allocation of population, housing and employment.

Cook envisions a five-month process with a study start-up this month. Then, in February, they'll get into a county-wide population, household, and employment forecast to 2051. Growth allocations by urban and rural area will be considered by March.

He said a draft report of would be done by April with the final report of the first phase or foundational phase done in June.

"We would endeavour to wrap up the study by late June or sometime in July at the latest," Cook said.

A development charges study for the county and its municipalities will be tied into the review, said Peter Simicisko, who is also a managing partner at Watson and Associates.

He described how the provincial government's Bill 23, the More Homes Built Faster Act, will affect development charges and capital costs.

"We will be addressing these [legislative changes] in detail as we proceed through the development charges background study process and we will have an opportunity to discuss

these in more detail once we come back to present the draft findings later in the year," Simicisko said.

Councillor Cecil Ryall, Highlands East's deputy mayor, said the people once dubbed seasonal residents have taken to staying for longer periods. He wasn't sure if they would have an impact on the study, but they're use of services has increased. Indication of that increase is seen at landfills.

Ryall wondered if that population segment could be included in the review.

Simicisko said they will consider a number of data sources in compiling the growth review.

Coun. Bob Carter, the mayor of Minden Hills, said he's highly supportive of the county and its lower tier municipalities adopting development charges.

"As we expand, the demands on the infrastructure are such that we are going to have to make some very large purchases over the next while," he said.

But Carter is skeptical the demographic information gleaned through the study will be even close to reflective of the county's residential reality. He said many of the people who spend most of the year in the county list their main address in Toronto or other locales.

"This is partially because we have limited medical services here," Carter said. "Nobody wants to give up their doctor. So they tell OHIP that they're still living in Toronto so they keep their doctor in Toronto."

That means Toronto is getting all the funding for those people.

"We've got countless number of people across the county that are like that," Carter said.

And, he said, such realities will skew growth studies.

"If we don't get some housing, we're not going to get a population growth of people who are workers," he said. "Most of the people who are moving here are retirees. And they're retirees moving into a dwelling they already have."

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Can we do it alone?

NEARLY HALF a million dollars for a concession stand. A hot topic in the community these days. I've had a series of emails, people stopping me on the street, calling my cell phone, all to say that they are outraged. One email just said "YIKES!" in caps lock in reference to the \$423,554.51 proposed in the report that was presented to council on Jan. 26.

As James Matthews indicated in his article this week, Minden Hills council wasn't thrilled with this price point. There is talk that it will be whittled down. Somehow. This isn't surprising. What is surprising, though, is the fact that we're still having this siloed conversation.

I remember sitting in a packed room at the Minden Community Centre sometime in 2018. I had just settled into Minden after being on the road for a few years, and I recall walking down to the public meeting that was essentially a Q and A with the McDonald Brothers - the single bidders on the arena project - where they promised a room full of people, "It will not be more than 9 million."

Here we are, a few years later, having slid past the 9 million dollar mark a while ago, and opening up the windows to let the cool breeze of additional expenses ruffle our hair.

For loyal readers of the *Times*, some may recall a previous role I held. Between the years of 2018 and 2020, I was the economic development, destination and marketing officer for the Township of Minden Hills. While wearing this hat, I was also responsible for the supervision and day-to-day management of the Minden Hills Cultural Centre. The weight of these roles taught me a lot more than realizing I am truly not cut out for a career in politics. It gave me new opportunities and insights into our community with the inner workings that twisted and turned with each budget season.



EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

To provide some context for the enormity of this price point for arena snacks, the budget for the township role I held in 2020 was \$524,535, just over \$100,000 more than the proposed concession stand cost. That was for an entire department that included all programming, upkeep, maintenance and staffing for the Cultural Centre, as well as services and support for local businesses to enhance the economic development of Minden. Even with that amount, I recall receiving feedback that it was too high.

But when it comes to the arena, I guess it's okay. To a point.

Now don't get me wrong. I value and utilize that arena in our community. I myself attended a hockey game just last weekend, and felt the energy and

sense of belonging that it provided. I see the economic prosperity that it brings to the county as a whole. They are called the Haliburton County Huskies, after all.

What I am curious about though, is the weight of heightened taxes and maintenance that has fallen on the shoulders of Minden Hills. Even if the bottom

line of the concession stand can be whittled down slightly, there will still be a cost, and it will still fall on us.

When I left my position with the township, it was to focus on my family during the early days of the pandemic. After I walked away, they never filled the position again. The responsibility of economic development was kicked to the county; a place I realized it probably should have been housed all along.

These towns aren't built the way they used to be. Nowadays, we blur the lines of municipalities. Folks live, work, shop, and play in all different corners of the county. So, with rising costs across the board, maybe it's time to spread out the services we all benefit from, and work together at a macro level to create a community where we aren't holding our breath every time a new project is proposed. Maybe, through it all, we can just share the snacks.

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

Kwarky



"I just want you to be happy."*†

* Within reasonable limits.

† In a mutually beneficial way.

All fired up

LATELY, I have been binge-watching the television series *Alone*. Ironically, I am not watching it alone. Jenn likes it too.

The show pits survival experts in a competition, in which they are allowed to bring ten survival tools other than their clothes. Then, they're dropped off to survive alone in a remote, rugged wilderness, for as long as they can. They don't know when the others tap out, but they do know that the last person there gets \$500,000. And the other people get an insincere, "It's OK. You did your best," from their families.

Though most have excellent bushcraft skills, the term "survival expert" essentially boils down to two things. First, you must be able to eat anything. These people have been known to consume mice, insects, leeches and even slugs – and that's before they get there. Next, you must be so anti-social that you can live alone for up to 100 days, which is probably something you get a lot of practice at, if you have been known to consume mice, insects, leeches and even slugs.

The show eventually makes you think that you too could survive at least 50 days alone in the wilderness in a desolate and unforgiving landscape, devoid of creature comforts and human contact, in the company of bears, cougars, and bitter cold, while slowly starving on a sustenance diet. And you think this, even though you are sprawled out on the couch under a blanket, sipping hot chocolate, and complaining about the dryness of the banana bread.

The most interesting thing to me is the fire-making strategy the contestants settled on.

Most choose a ferro rod as their fire-

making tool. These things throw a very hot spark when you scrape metal across them. Once the spark lands on your tinder, you then have to blow gently on it until the tinder erupts into a flame and then, while you are holding it in your hands and chanting "Ouch! Ouch! Ouch!" you carry your burning tinder to your fire pit and hope that you can quickly build a fire atop it.

On the plus side, at least your hands are warm.

A good fire is needed so the contestants can stay warm, boil water so it is safe, and burn the creatures they gather beyond recognition, so they taste like charcoal, which is preferable to tasting like inedible. Also, if a big dangerous animal like a grizzly bear is close, a good fire acts as a deterrent more effective than bear spray, but only if you burn the socks and underwear you have been wearing for weeks on end.

Even so, if it were me, I would leave the ferro rod at home and just take two Bic lighters. One would probably be enough to last the 70 or 80 days it generally takes to win.

Why take the second one?

Well, because as anyone who owns a lighter knows, no matter how remote you are, at one point, one of your chain-smoking friends is going to show up unexpectedly and ask to borrow your lighter for a second, and then walk off with it.

I suspect that is why not one contestant decided to take one.

But, you know, I think this would add some humour to a basically humourless show.

And that would be good. Sometimes, even on a survival show, people just want to see the lighter side.



STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

IN OTHER WORDS

Columns and Letters to the Editor

No greater love ...

THREE ARE times when we might want to despair over living in a world of selfishness.

This week isn't one of them.

That's because the first week of February every year brings a reminder that confirms the basic goodness and selflessness of humans. It comes in a powerful piece of history not known by many, forgotten by some.

Eighty years ago this week the *SS Dorchester*, an aging luxury liner converted to a U.S. Army transport ship, was sailing through Torpedo Alley between Newfoundland and Greenland. It carried 904 soldiers and others headed for the war zones of Europe.

At 12:55 a.m. Feb. 3, 1943 German submarine U-223 locked the *Dorchester* in its sights and unleashed four torpedoes. One found its mark, exploding in the ship's boiler room.

Many troops in the lower areas of the ship died instantly. Others clambered through the dark and confusion to reach the upper decks.

The ship listed, taking on water quickly. Some of the *Dorchester*'s 14 life boats were damaged by the blast and the crew managed to launch only two others, plus some life rafts.

Survivors later described scenes of desperation amid mass panic. Some told of four first lieutenants treating the wounded and comforting the terror-stricken while helping to get them off the ship.

Those four lieutenants were military chaplains assigned to provide spiritual care to the troops fighting Hitler in Europe.

During the chaos, the chaplains opened a storage locker and handed out life-jackets. They urged soldiers to jump off the sinking ship and into the icy waters where they would have a chance of being picked up accompanying ships.

"They were passing out life preservers from boxes on deck," survivor Oswald Evans said later in a sworn affidavit. "When these were gone, I saw them take the life preservers from their own persons and hand them out, too."

Another survivor, Grady Clark, described what he saw after jumping into the ocean:

"As I swam away from the ship, I looked back. The flares had lighted everything. The bow came up high and she slid under. The last thing I saw, the four chaplains were up there praying for the safety of the men . . . They themselves did not have a chance without their life jackets."

Others told of the chaplains standing on deck, arms linked and singing and praying as the *Dorchester* slipped beneath the surface. The singing and praying heard by the men in the water was in Hebrew and Latin, as well as English, because the chaplains represented different faiths.

Chaplain Alexander D. Goode was a reform rabbi and son of Rabbi Hyman Goodekowitz.

Father John P. Washington was a Catholic priest recently assigned to the 76th infantry division in Maryland.

Rev. George L. Fox was a Methodist minister highly decorated as a medical assistant in the First World war.

The fourth chaplain was Dutch Reformed minister Clark V. Poling, son of Rev. Daniel A. Poling, Baptist minister and an advisor to U.S. President Harry S. Truman.

The four chaplains were among the 672 who perished in the ocean that night. Only 232 survived, some possibly in the life jackets given to them by the chaplains.

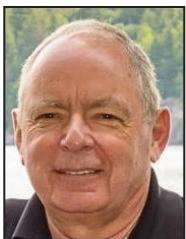
After the *Dorchester* sinking Rev. Daniel Poling established the Chapel of Four Chaplains in the basement of his Grace Baptist Church in Philadelphia. It was dedicated to selfless service and interfaith cooperation.

The chapel moved to different locations over the years and now is found at Philadelphia's Navy Yard.

In testimony before Congress, one survivor, Benjamin Epstein, reflected on what he had seen that night:

"To take off your life preserver, it meant you gave up your life. You would have no chance of surviving. They (the chaplains) knew they were finished. But they gave it away. Consider that. Over the years I've asked myself this question a thousand times. Could I do it? No, I don't think I could do it. Just consider what an act of heroism they performed."

In a world that today seems to have gone crazy, I like to believe that the spirit of the four chaplains remains, giving us the courage and selflessness to help each other.



JIM POLING SR.

From Shaman's Rock



Rock on

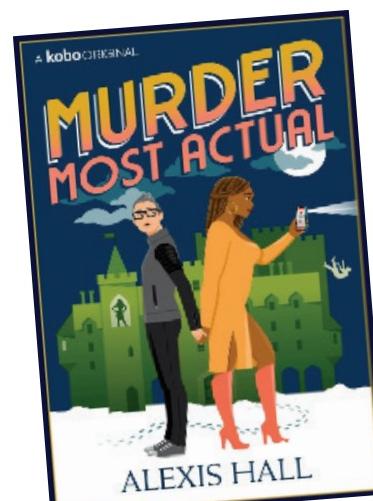
Minden Curling Club members hit an 8-ender at a recent game on Jan. 17. Also known as a "snowman," an 8-ender is when all eight rocks from one team score points, and is incredibly rare in the game. There has never been an eight-ender in Olympic history. From left, Ron Bobbie (Skip), Victoria Lawson, Nancy Lemire, Brian Lemire. /Photo submitted



Ready to roll

With plenty of fresh snow, the Haliburton County Snowmobile Association B103 trail is highlighted green on the OFSC interactive trail map, meaning riders are good to go. HCSA volunteers continue to work hard grooming and clearing trails and staking lakes. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

HCPL's Book of the Week



For lovers of cozy mysteries and true crime alike, *Murder Most Actual* is a witty homage to classic detective stories, featuring a true crime podcaster and her wife who get caught up in a murder investigation while staying at a country house. It has all the ingredients of a stellar whodunit, along with tongue-in-cheek references to mystery standards and a subplot focused on healing a strained marriage that is full of pathos and warmth. Alexis Hall brings his talent and skill as a romance writer to the mystery genre with this fun and heartwarming novel.

Murder Most Actual by Alexis Hall is available to borrow as an e-book from the Haliburton County Public Library.

With the efforts from dedicated community members, Minden will soon have its first ever community garden set to kick off this spring. From left, Dave Woodcroft, Lynda Litwin, from the Minden Rotary Club, and Gary Stoner from the Minden Community Food Centre. The organizers welcome other community members and service clubs to get involved. /Photo submitted



Better get growing!

by EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

It's been a long time coming, but Minden will soon have its first community garden. Set to break ground this spring, the gardens will offer a minimum of 20 raised beds for locals to utilize and enjoy.

The initiative is spearheaded by the Minden Community Food Centre, and supported by the Minden Rotary Club, as well as a variety of community partners and passionate patronage in the area. It is planned that the gardens will be laid out at the Minden Fairgrounds.

Gary Stoner, who is heavily involved with the Food Centre, shared that the gardens will not only provide a space and food for the public, but also the food bank clients. He recognizes that not everyone in the area has the capacity to sustain a garden on their property.

The Minden Rotary Club is thrilled to offer this project for the betterment of the community, and has indicated that many individu-

als are already interested in getting involved, even in the early days.

In a press release shared with media, Stoner indicated that the following volunteer opportunities would be welcomed:

- Garden coordinator
- Members of the planning committee
- Provision and erection of perimeter fencing
- Access to garden hoses
- Construction of a small garden shed
- Site preparation-top-soil; plot construction
- Signs-provision and erection
- Financial assistance

Lynda Litwin of Minden Rotary shared that she feels this is an excellent opportunity for community partners to get involved, including other service clubs and local businesses.

Applications for a plot in the garden are currently being accepted, and can be sent to Minden or by emailing mindencommunityfoodcentre@gmail.com.

There will be a meeting for all those interested in getting involved in any capacity on Feb. 21 at 7 p.m. at the Dominion Hotel.

HCDC here for not-for-profits

by EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

The Haliburton County Development Corporation (HCDC) officially opened their applications for their Local Initiatives Program (LIP) on Jan. 30. "This is a really special program," said Heather Reid, program & operations coordinator for HCDC, "because it's an opportunity for organizations to try something for the very first time, and just see if it works."

HCDC distributes between \$40,000 and \$100,000 annually through the LIP program, with a focus on not-for-profits. The criteria for the program is broad, and according to HCDC, applications must encompass the following points:

- Contribute to the resiliency and vibrancy of the community;
- Are incremental (incremental is defined as a new initiative, enhance existing activities, in addition to existing activities);
- Involve not-for-profit organizations that strive to enhance the community economic development efforts of the community;
- Address the strategic priorities of the Haliburton County Development Corporation;
- Guarantee that the funding will not create a dependency on the corporation;
- Not produce market disruption.

The LIP has been available through HCDC since 2015, and made possible by transferring from their investment fund and applying it back into the community interest earned through lending activities to businesses in the area. Since its inception in 2015, over \$45,000 has been distributed to not-for-profit businesses and organizations in the community.

"Receiving the funding is a really great way for not-for-profits to get the ball rolling," said Reid, who shared that through the application process, interested parties also receive access to the support and resources HCDC has available. These services include business support, grant information, and assistance with financial questions.

"A lot of people don't know that it's our job to help," said Reid. "We want to help! I promise, you're not bugging us if you reach out!" Reid shared that she looks forward to the applications, and working with individuals who she believes makes Haliburton County brighter.

The deadline for applications is March 13, but Reid encouraged applicants to submit by March 6, so that HCDC can provide ample feedback and support to the application. She also welcomed all questions and inquiries applicants may have leading up to the deadline. Successful applicants will be informed at the end of March. Visit www.haliburtoncdc.ca for more information.

Basic income chat welcomes all

There will be a Basic Income Community Discussion on Wed. Feb. 8 from 2 to 4 p.m. The objective of the meeting is to build awareness in the community around basic income, and tackling the tough questions through discussion and video.

The event will be held at the lower level of the Highland Hills United Church in Minden, located at 21 Newcastle Street. The

group discussion will be facilitated by Judy Paul, and all are welcome to join either in person or via Zoom.

To register for the event, please phone Joan Grant at 705-286-3323 or email joanegrant99@bell.net for more details.

Submitted



Practice makes perfect

Annika Gervais finishes a waltz jump during Minden Skating Club's Friday night practice at the SG Nesbitt Arena in Minden on Jan. 27. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff

Chloe Hartwig practices a sit spin.

Giving a VOICE to everyone

by EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

Come And Sit Together. That's the theme of VOICE, a peer support group led by individuals with lived experiences intrauma, mental health, mood, and substance abuse issues. "A lot of humans are suffering," shared Tom Regehr, one of the organizers of the program, "we want to listen."

Regehr is the founder of Come And Sit Together (CAST) Canada, which offers training across the country to help professionals, corporations and communities better understand the role of trauma and unresolved grief in human suffering and behaviors.

He shared with the *Times* that his passion to share this material stems from his own background, which included personal struggles with homelessness, alcohol and substance abuse, and unaddressed childhood trauma. "When I was working through my early days of recovery, I noticed that a lot of support services didn't understand exactly why we were stuck," he said.

Regehr said that in his recovery journey, he accessed a series of services, hoping to find something that clicked and where he felt supported. Yet, there was often a divide between those who had suffered, and medical professionals who only looked at the facts as opposed to the stories.

It was by navigating the needs and gaps of these social services, that Regehr felt compelled to listen and share his own stories with those exploring recovery. In 1999, he started the first CAST support groups, where he welcomed individuals from all walks of life to sit, share, listen, and

connect. This program grew quickly, with eager individuals wanting to engage in the safe space. It has now evolved into over 100 panel discussions between individuals in recovery, and front line professionals.

Regehr noted that while he has been in the world of healthcare professionals and substance abuse support since 1999, he has never seen the level of commitment to helping a community that he is currently witnessing in Haliburton County. He shared that he is working with Point in Time, SIRCH, the Haliburton Highlands Chamber of Commerce, and the Haliburton County Public Libraries, all of whom welcomed his programming, and offered ways to help promote and support along the way. He also noted the Haliburton County Mental Health and Substance Use Working Group through Point in Time was the organization responsible for seed money for the program.

The structure of the program is split into two parts, with the first half focusing on sitting, talking, and sharing in a supportive and contained environment, followed by discussions about how the community can support those in need, as well as educating participants on access to grants, social services, and project funding. Regehr noted that while the program is not anonymous, it is founded in confidentiality, common sense, and respect.

The VOICE sessions are planned for Haliburton at SIRCH Cafe on Feb. 8 from 6:30-9 p.m., Minden at the Lions Club on Feb. 9 from 12-2:30 p.m., and on Zoom on Feb. 13 from 7-9 p.m. For more information, you can email voice@the-castprojects.ca, text 705-749-6145, or visit www.voicehaliburton.weebly.com

OPP looking for witnesses to MVC

Members of the Haliburton Highlands Detachment of the Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) are investigating a serious collision involving a single snowmobile that occurred on Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) trail E.

On Jan. 25, 2023, members of the Haliburton Highlands OPP and emergency crews responded to a single snowmobile collision on OFSC trail E, south of Waxwing Drive in the Municipality of Dysart et al. The collision was reported to have occurred shortly after 2:30 pm. One person was transported to a medical facility for treatment regarding serious injuries.

OPP Technical Collision Investigators are assisting with this investigation. The investigation into the cause of the collision is ongoing.

Haliburton Highlands OPP is requesting any witnesses who have information about this collision, dash camera footage and have not yet spoken to police, to contact the Detachment at (705) 286-1431 or 1-888-310-1122.

Snowmobilers are reminded to use caution at all times. Snowmobiling is an off-road activity that occurs in an unpredictable and uncontrollable natural environment. The OPP is committed to saving lives on Ontario's highways, trails and waterways through the reduction of preventable injury and death.

*Submitted by the
Haliburton Highlands OPP*

Welcome back to Stanhope Library

by CHRIS STEPHENSON
Special to the Times

It's now been eight weeks since the Stanhope branch re-opened, and staff at Haliburton County Public Library (HCPL) are excited to report on how it's going. They noted that many patrons from Algonquin Highlands previously accessing library service at the Minden Hills branch have now returned to visiting Stanhope branch. The HCPL book couriers are now arriving at Stanhope branch every Wednesday and Saturday, and they bring bins from across the system full of books and other resources patrons request from other locations.

Library employees scheduled to work in the branch received training from Algonquin Highlands staff on how to operate the new, accessible lift that was installed last fall. Branch supervisor, Gayle, said, "it's been gratifying to see the smiles on every visitor" and that returning patrons express "how happy they are that we are open again and how much more convenient it is for them." If you stop by the branch this month, you'll find a LEGO station set up and there have been several creations submitted for the monthly challenge, including one from a grandparent. A young family in Stanhope visited recently and the AWE computer, which is sponsored by the Friends of the Library, was a big hit. This computer station is set up with pre-loaded educational software for young children and isn't connected



Staff of the HCPL Stanhope Branch stand proudly in front of the newly installed accessibility lift that is now available to patrons of the library. /photo submitted

to the internet. A very young, budding librarian has also been visiting, and this toddler is determined to see all the picture books – and then works hard to reshelf them!

Branch staff member, Penni, reports that getting the Stanhope Book Club back together again has been a success.

All the members are excited and happy to return and participate, and they had a full house at their most recent meeting: eight members plus Penni. HCPL recently invested in a dehumidifier and a portable, oil-filled radiator to make the downstairs space as cosy as possible for all future meetings and programs.

And speaking of programs, our programming and outreach coordinator, Hillary, has a few exciting things in the works. On Feb. 11, starting at 10 a.m., there's a drop-in craft program called the Frog Heart Craft. No registration is required, and kids aged five and up can make a special craft just in time for Valentine's Day. On Wednesday, February 8th, Stanhope branch is hosting a Jigsaw Puzzle Swap. You can bring your gently used jigsaw puzzle and swap it for a new-to-you puzzle. This event happens from 12 to 3 p.m.

This winter we put the finishing touches on a grant for Young Canada Works, as we hope to have two students join the library team this summer. We could use help rolling out summer reading club, activities and events for young patrons and visitors, and also some helpers to assist with technology questions from people of all ages.

Stay in touch with Gayle and the other staff members at Stanhope branch in the coming weeks to find out more about what's happening in the library system. If you need to sign up for a library card or renew the one you have, they'll be happy to see you and glad to help.

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BINGO

Razzamataz presents international circus act

by EMILY STONEHOUSE
Editor

Razzamataz Kids' Show are back at it again. Less than a month since their successful viewing of the *Odawa Wiingushk* performance, the organizers for children's programming in the area are presenting another wacky and whimsical spectacle on Feb. 4.

The Kif-Kif sisters are internationally acclaimed performers, having strutted their stuff in Mexico, Korea, Switzerland, Japan to name a few places. They have also performed with Théâtre de l'Aubergine and the Cirque du Soleil. The act is composed of two identical twin sisters, who originally hailed from Quebec City. Françoise and Josette Lépine tie the theme of "twinship" into their multi-disciplinary act, incorporating music, theatre, circus, and visual arts to create "twice the action, twice the fun."

Tickets are available for the show at www.razzamataz.ca, and are \$10 for adults and \$7 for kids. There is only one viewing, which will be held on Saturday, Feb. 4 at the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion at 10 a.m.

The Kif Kif Sisters are making their debut in Haliburton County on Feb. 4 with Razzamataz Kids' Shows. The identical twin act has travelled the world performing outside the box circus acts. /Photo submitted



Singer songwriter Terra Lightfoot sings *It's Over Now* during her first concert of the year held at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 129 hosted by the Haliburton County Folk Society on Saturday, Jan. 28. The concert was a sold out success. /VIVIAN COLLINGS Staff



Singing the blues away

Local artist and musician Thom Lambert opens for Terra Lightfoot at the Haliburton Legion on Saturday, Jan. 28.



Lightfoot's albums were available for purchase at the concert.

Saturday's game

The Haliburton County Huskies played back to back this past weekend, securing one win and one loss. Their first game was against the Wellington Dukes on Jan. 28, where they won 3-2. /TIM YANO Special to the Times



Huskies right winger Ty Collins chases the a Wellington player down the ice.

Sunday's game

Huskie D Will Gourgouvelis gets a short-handed breakaway during the second period against the Burlington Cougars. Despite a fast-paced game, the Huskies lost to the Cougars 6-3 on Jan. 29. /EMILY STONEHOUSE Staff



Huskies take a faceoff against the Burlington Cougars. This was the first and only time the Huskies have faced the Cougars in regular season this year.

Would you like to contribute to shaping healthcare delivery in our community and region?

Peterborough Regional Health Centre (PRHC) is seeking individuals to become members of the Board of Directors who: (a) reside in one of the four (4) counties of Peterborough, Northumberland, Haliburton and Kawartha Lakes; (b) reflect the diversity of our changing community; and (c) can bring volunteer Board experience and business/professional skills to our governance processes. The Board is seeking strong contributors with an interest in future leadership positions.

The Board

- Governs the affairs of PRHC in line with best practices in the sector
- Advances PRHC's vision, mission and values
- Values and embraces anti-oppression, anti-racism, equity, diversity, and inclusion practices and principles within its governance processes
- Is committed to continuously building a truly inclusive, and safe organization at every level
- Supports the implementation of the 2024-2027 Strategic plan and ensures that all decisions are made in accordance with the Plan
- Reviews and approves PRHC's Annual Operating Plan
- Provides oversight to quality of care
- Fosters regional relationships needed for seamless care

All applications are welcome, in particular from persons with a background in clinical (professional staff and allied health included), human resources, patient/family experience, construction/facility management, and quality of care. Before applying, please visit our website at www.prhc.on.ca and click on **About PRHC/Board of Directors** for more detail.

How to Apply:

Submit an application along with a resume by February 17, 2023 to the Chair, Nominating Sub-Committee, c/o Margaret Clark, Senior Executive Assistant, Administration, Peterborough Regional Health Centre, One Hospital Drive, Peterborough, ON, K9J 7C6, or email mclark@prhc.on.ca

PRHC
Peterborough Regional
Health Centre



Township of Algonquin Highlands

NOTICE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETINGS 2023 BUDGET DELIBERATIONS

TAKE NOTICE that Council will begin its 2023 budget deliberations during a **Special Meeting on Wednesday, February 15, 2023** commencing at 9:00 a.m. conducted electronically via web conference.

Council will continue its 2023 Budget Deliberations during its Regular Council Meeting being held on Thursday, February 16, 2023.

If required, Council will continue its 2023 budget deliberations during a **Special Meeting on Thursday, February 23, 2023** commencing at 9:00 a.m. conducted electronically via web conference.

Please Note: Public participation in meetings of Council, remains virtual at this time. Members of the Public are invited to observe the Council proceedings by joining a live-stream link which can be found on the published Council Meeting Agenda on the Township's website at www.algonquinhIGHLANDS.ca

Dated this 1st day of February, 2023.

Dawn Newhook, Municipal Clerk
Township of Algonquin Highlands
1123 North Shore Road
Algonquin Highlands, ON K0M 1J1
T: (705) 489-2379 x333
E: dnewhook@algonquinhIGHLANDS.ca

The C Word

DON'T GET your knickers in a knot, the C-word under consideration, at this moment, is Crone. I want to consider the blaze of light within that word, which is generally understood as the third phase of womanhood (after the Maiden and the Mother). It is also generally understood to be a dark, ugly, wrinkled, malicious old woman – a trio of warty witches stirring a pot of trouble in the depths of the forest. I understand this interpretation as garden variety ageism and misogyny. Because, really, after what we've had to put up with as Maidens and Mothers, a little maliciousness may be warranted.

But I would like to claim the word, without getting all New Agey, as a time when a woman's life belongs to her. I used to horrify my women friends (the men had long since bolted from the room) when menopause was on our minds, by doing some simple arithmetic to quantify the extent to which our lives returned to us with the cessation of menstruation. Roughly one quarter of our lives for forty years, not counting the five years or so at either end worrying about it starting and stopping.

It is within this bent mind set that I enjoyed Jessica Grose's column in the Jan. 7, 8. New York Times International Weekly column entitled 'The Quick Change, from Babe to Hag'. She decries the unfairness – but doesn't argue with the probable correctness – of these

findings of a social gerontologist (who knew there was such a creature?) from University of Minnesota, Tetyana Shippee: "From ages 18 to 30, women report age discrimination due to being too young. From your mid-30s to your mid-40s is a safe time. Then age discrimination starts to pick up again after age 50, and it's especially high after 55 plus." I think the outcry when Lisa Laflamme was ejected, purportedly (and arguably, her erstwhile bosses say) because she'd neglected to cover her grey, indicates there is some shared sentiment floating around out there.

Grose's primary complaint, aside from being able to expect a gender-even playing field for only ten years in her working life, was how women's appearance is consistently 'marked', to use a sociological term that means it conveys information that positions you socially in such an ambiguous way that it's nigh on impossible to get it right. For example, what's slutty to one person might be sexy to another, and whether sexy is good or bad is as slippery as a banana peel. In fact, the amount of time a woman loses trying to figure out what to 'go as' when she faces her day, and the many moments during the day when she wonders if she got it right and/or how she got it wrong, very likely dwarfs the amount of time that menstruation steals from her life.

Grose seems to see the decade of gender



FAY MARTIN
Poke, Peel, Pair, Ponder

fairness as the promised land between being patronized (in youth) and infantilized (in old age). I will not disagree that there is a tendency to infantilize old people (calling us 'dear', using a pared-down vocabulary and simple sentence construction, speaking loudly and slowly) and that it is annoying. But there is freedom in perceived incompetence. Permission to misbehave is implied when one's censor board is understood to be unreliable and wonky. We can with impunity wear red with purple (with a nod to Jenny Joseph, who apparently was 29 years old when she wrote that poem, perhaps to gird herself for the gauntlet that awaits).

*When I am an old woman I shall
wear purple,
With a red hat which doesn't go,
and doesn't suit me.*

*And I shall spend my pension on brandy and
summer gloves,*

*And satin sandals, and say we've no
money for butter.*

All this to say that being a woman is very hard work. And so I think we should embrace the kingdom of Cronedom (the queendom of Cronedom? Interesting that it's maidenhood and motherhood, but cronehood does not slip easily off the tongue, does it?). In Grose's article, she cites psychologist and mythologist Sharon Blackie who suggests we embrace our 'inner hag', advice which Grose slams as impractical in a world where a woman needs to earn a living. I empathize with Grose's position, but from the security of Cronedom, I'm with Blackie. Life is much more fun and productive when who you are and what you do doesn't matter to hardly anyone but yourself.

Fay Martin is an emerging writer whose work in progress may be adopting a new title, maybe The Great Invisibility, as she broadens her net to include all kinds of caregivers.

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		4						8
4		5	3	2				
7	8		1					
	1		5	3				
2	1	7			8			
3			6	7				
5			2	1				

Level: Advanced

Here's How It Works:

Sudoku puzzles are formatted as a 9x9 grid, broken down into nine 3x3 boxes. To solve a sudoku, the numbers 1 through 9 must fill each row, column and box. Each number can appear only once in each row, column and box. You can figure out the order in which the numbers will appear by using the numeric clues already provided in the boxes. The more numbers you name, the easier it gets to solve the puzzle!

Answers on page 13

Why do moose shed their antlers?

by CLEM GROB
Special to the Times

To answer this question, let's start at the beginning - late winter, when the bull moose has no antlers on its head. As the days start getting longer and temperatures begin to rise in the early spring, an increase in testosterone causes the bull moose to begin to grow back their antlers rapidly. Antlers are the fastest growing tissue of any mammal, with healthy individuals accumulating up to a pound of bone mass each day. The antlers grow under a layer called velvet, which remains on the growing antlers throughout the summer. Velvet is comparable to the skin and fur on the rest of the animal, containing blood vessels and nerves that support the growth of the antlers.

During this time of growth, the moose has to be mindful of his surroundings to keep his good looks up. The growing antlers are fragile and susceptible to damage, and any deformities will remain for the whole season. This leaves some bulls out of luck when mating season arrives. However, in the new year, the moose will have a new shot at winning the ladies, thanks to their antler shedding.

Bull moose with the most nutrient dense, diverse diets tend to have the largest antlers. For example, in the coastal regions of British Columbia, moose have a bountiful variety of forage and tend to have larger antlers than moose in the Yukon,



where fewer foods are available. Antler growth peaks around the age of 10, after which the antlers become slightly smaller overtime due to aging.

In September, dropping temperatures and fewer daylight hours causes testosterone to surge in the bull moose. This causes them to cut off blood circulation to their velvet, which starts the shedding process. The velvet becomes dry and falls off, and the moose aids in removing the velvet by rubbing their antlers on trees and bushes.

With the antler bones now exposed, the exterior hardens in preparation for the mating season, where bull moose will fight each other for cows. To lure females, bulls may dig a pit in the ground to urinate in and coat their antlers in the urine to emit a strong scent to females.

Apparently, this grand gesture stimulates ovulation in the cows. The females typically choose the bull who wins the most fights, which ensures their offspring have strong genes. Ultimately, the moose with the biggest set of antlers will win the most fights and have the best mating opportunities.

When mating season has finished, the females separate from the bulls, and the large, 60 pound ornament on top of their head is suddenly useless - burdensome even. This is when osteoclasts begin to break down the bone connecting the antler to the skull, and the antlers fall off at some point throughout the winter. This adaptation allows the animal to save some of its much needed energy throughout the winter, when food is scarce and energy stores run at an all time low.



Teams faceoff during a lively pickleball game on Jan. 28 at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena in Minden.



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Pickleball is hosted regularly at the S.G. Nesbitt Arena in Minden. It's a great way to get some exercise and meet new people. All ages and experience levels are welcome. For additional information and to find a time that works for you to try it out, head to www.mindenhill.ca. /TIM YANO
Special to the Times

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2	1	3	4	9	7	5	6	8
4	9	6	5	8	3	1	2	7
5	7	8	6	1	2	3	4	9
7	8	1	9	4	5	6	3	2
6	4	5	3	2	8	9	7	1
9	3	2	1	7	6	4	8	5
1	6	7	2	5	4	8	9	3
3	2	9	8	6	1	7	5	4
8	5	4	7	3	9	2	1	6

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Visit our website at www.haliburtoncounty.ca/careers for a more detailed posting and job description.

Please forward your resume to shume@haliburtoncounty.ca no later than February 20th, 2023, at 4:30pm.

We thank all who apply for this position; however only those selected for an interview will be contacted.

The County of Haliburton is an equal employer. Accommodation can be provided in all steps of the hiring process, please contact Human Resources for further details.

In accordance with the *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, the information gathered will be used solely for the purpose of job selection.

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 DATE POSTED: January 24, 2023

As innovative leaders in rural health care delivery, Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) offers the spectrum of services with the goal of achieving improved local access to health services and quality of care for patients, residents and clients. HHHS promotes wellness and provides high quality health services including Primary Care, Hospital Care (Acute In-patient and Emergency Care), Long-term Care, End-of-Life Care, Mental Health and Addictions Care, and an array of Community Support Services on two sites. New investments in community programs, including a Geriatric Assessment and Intervention Network (GAIN) Team, a Palliative Care Community Team, Assisted Living Services for High-Risk Seniors and a Community Physiotherapy Clinic are all focused on supporting the residents of the Haliburton Highlands to stay healthy in their homes for as long as possible.

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Haliburton Highlands Health Services (HHHS) has an exciting opportunity for a highly motivated, self-starting individual with strong accounting and organizational skills to join the team as our Senior Financial Analyst. Reporting to the Manager, Finance, the Senior Financial Analyst will have responsibility for providing services in relation to accounting, business analysis and management decision support for the overall organization. This includes: general accounting; monthly and quarterly management reporting; meaningful results analysis; government reporting; and annual audits for the organization. They will also play a role in business analysis and management decision support by: creating and maintaining detailed budget models; designing and providing valuable management reports and metrics; working with managers to provide thorough analyses of results against budget and forecast.

POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Prepares monthly journal entries and analyses
- Prepares consolidated financial statements for various stakeholders
- Prepares quarterly variance reports for stakeholders to facilitate decision making
- Responsible for maintenance of chart of accounts and compliance with financial reporting guidelines
- Involved in budgeting process and support to management
- Provide sound and timely financial and business information to the Finance Manager, CFO, executive leadership team, and clinical programs
- Performs detailed reconciliations
- Monitor, analyze and reconcile variances from approved plan, consolidating remedial action plans to attain budgeted targets and mitigate run rates
- Assist in the preparation of cash flow, working capital and total margin projections and analysis
- Assists in year-end audit
- Assists as required in ad-hoc/specialized assignments including change management
- Prepare and evaluate key statistical and financial performance indicators

QUALIFICATIONS:

To achieve this, the successful candidate must possess:

- Post-secondary degree in a relevant field (e.g. Accounting/Business Administration and/or relevant field)
- Professional Accounting Designation is preferred
- Previous experience in preparing budgets, analyzing financial and related statistical data to identify trends, relationships, and opportunities
- Ontario Health Reporting Standards (OHRS) knowledge and exposure to DADS and NACRS is an asset
- Strong aptitude for analysis, interpretation, and presentation of financial and statistical data
- Ability to take initiative, communicate and embrace challenges
- Sound professional judgment, initiative, and the ability to multi-task and meet tight deadlines
- Experience or knowledge of in-house payroll
- Advanced computer and information systems skills including Excel, Word
- Excellent organization, communication, and interpersonal skills

SUBMIT RESUME TO:

Human Resources
 Haliburton Highlands Health Services
 Box 115, Haliburton, ON, K0M 1S0
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Housekeeping/Laundry - Full Time, Temporary, Contract *Four positions available*

Our Housekeeping and Laundry areas are managed with teams split between Housekeeping and Laundry.

Responsibilities include: cleaning of all buildings, accommodations, washrooms, shower facilities and common areas throughout the camp, including the turnover of living space throughout camp and overall upkeep of camp facilities. Cleaning and light maintenance duties include, but not limited to sweeping, mopping, cleaning, painting and replenishing supplies needed for showers and washrooms.

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Our Maintenance and Construction Team are managed with teams split between the Maintenance and Construction Team and Grounds Keeping.

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Expected Start date: Spring 2023

Candidates will be cross-trained and or assigned to areas based on existing skills and previous work experience. Candidates must enjoy working outside. A typical work week is 40 hours with potential for overtime. Willing to take required government safety certifications such as WHMIS. Able to support a positive team environment.

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Submit application and resume by email to Jay@camptimberlane.ca



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Minden Times Classifieds

650 OBITUARIES



In loving memory
Shirley Hamilton (nee Lynde)
 Resident of Halls Lake, Ontario.

Passed in her sleep the early morning of January 24th, 2023, in her 87th year. Beloved wife of the late William (Bill) Hamilton. Loving mother of Greg Hamilton (April). Beloved grandmother of Sadie, Sawyer and Amelia. Deeply missed by her sister Carol Monaghan (Brian) and her many nieces and nephews. Shirley is fondly remembered for her welcoming personality, involvement in local choirs, and her ability to make a delicious meal appear for any number of guests on a moment's notice. A thank you to the staff of Spencer House in Orillia for taking such good care of Shirley in her final years.

Friends are invited to join the family in celebrating Shirley's life at Lakeside Church, 9 Park St, Haliburton ON K0M1S0. A service will be held at 2pm the afternoon of Saturday, February 4th.



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In Loving Memory
Janet McGrath
 Resident of Haliburton, Ontario

Peacefully at the residence on Monday morning, January 30, 2023 in her 89th year. Janet was the only child of Jessie and Harry Carbray, both born in Scotland, emigrated in 1926. Beloved wife of the late Ed McGrath (2009). Dear mother of Kim and Ian Wilson, Beth and Tony Frith, Cathy and Philip Sally, Scott Murray, Ron Murray and the late Tom McGrath (2015). Caring Grandmother to Ken, Jan, Steve, Doug, Madison, Sylvain, Celeste and Trevor, Hugh, Michael, Richard, John, much missed Benjamin Frith (2005) and unlamented Les Wilson (2011). Proud Great-Grandma or GG to Mark, Ben, Roni, Ian, Liam, Jonathan, Madison, Kaylin, Jayse, Kamryn, Electra, Bodhi, Maeve and Nicholas. Predeceased by sister-in-law Margaret McGrath (S.S.J.). Missed by Gary and Margaret McGrath and family cousin, Marie Marozzo and her family. Cousins in Scotland, the Miles family in England, Janet McCabe and the Harris family of Glasgow, Scotland. The family wishes to say a huge thank you to all of the Nurses, Personal Support Workers, and Doctors for the wonderful care and kindness shown to Mum during her stay in Haliburton Hospital. And a special thank you to April down in Lindsay and Beth, Cheryl, Nicole and Andrea.

Private Graveside Service

At Mum's request, no funeral or viewing will take place. After cremation, her ashes will go with Ed's in a place of the family's choosing. In lieu of flowers, please donate to a children's charity, if you wish to remember her. Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy.#118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209.

"When I come to the end of the road and the sun has set for me, I want no rites in a gloom filled room. Why cry for a body set free. Miss me a little but not for long. Remember the love we shared. Miss me and let me go and I will finally be able to let Ed go." As Dr. Seuss said, "Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened."

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The Times

Minden

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Monday, February 27, 1989

World Cup race back in Minden

World Cup racing will return to the Minden Wild Water Preserve again this summer and will be the one last shot at impressing the International Olympic Committee with the facilities.

"This will be the last chance to show the world what we can do," Race Committee Chairman Robert Grose told Anson, Hindon and Minden Council last Thursday. It is not likely that Minden will host a World Cup race again in 1990, so this will be the last chance to show off the Preserve to the committee that will choose the site for the 1996 Olympics next year, said Grose.

The city of Toronto is bidding for the honour of hosting the 1996 Games and if it is successful, the Minden Preserve will be the site of the white water canoe and kayak events. In 1992, Canoe slalom will be included in the canoeing program at the Olympic Games in Barcelona.

"Every time I come before this council I'm crucified or hoarayed, depending on how many parking tickets were issued and how many people came out."

1990 is when the bid for Toronto is either accepted or rejected for 1996." Grose said. "If we put a show on for the world and get Toronto's people here, then they can show off the facility in their bid."

The first World Cup circuit was brought to life last summer, with the Minden race being one of seven. "Based on the success of last year's World Cup event, Canada has been selected to host one of the seven events again this year," Grose told council. More than 100 of the world's best paddlers will be competing again in Minden, which means more good exposure to everyone involved in the sport.

Major television coverage of the World Cup circuit is a strong possibility this year. Grose said negotiations with an international sponsor are almost complete and he should know this week if the television proposal will be accepted.

Grose was at the council meeting to inform members of what will be happening at the course this summer and to make sure the usual facilities will be in place. He was asking that the townships provide garbage cans in the park, four portable washrooms, a sign to be placed at the corner of Highway 35 and Horseshoe Lake Road and parking attendants.

"Every time I come before this council I'm crucified or hoarayed, depending on how many parking tickets were issued and how many people came out," Grose commented. On Thursday he was in for a bit of both.

Reeve Ray Moore promised full support. "We're going to be working with you, let me tell you." He said he is excited about this summer's World Cup as well as the future Olympic potential. "You're scaring the pants right off us for a two-day event," he said.

Deputy Reeve Bern Berry then began questioning him about parking. He said the municipality provided three men to police the parking situation last summer and asked if Grose had looked into the possibility of leasing a piece of property up the road to provide more parking. Grose said he had looked into that possibility in the past but had been turned down for various reasons. He said he will consider the option of arranging for parking space close to Minden and providing a shuttle bus to the rapids.

STOP!

The high school drama club's presentation of *Blind Dates* poses some tough challenges to both the cast and the students involved in the construction of the set and props. Students are hard at work preparing for this March 3 and 4 performance and last week they had a chance to test out one of the props for the scene on a school bus.

Blind Dates: A slice of teenage life

"It's unbelievable how close to real life this is," said Grozelle, "and looked at one passage and thought 'That's me.'"

Don Grozelle, who is in charge of promotion for the HHSS Drama Club's production of *Blind Dates*, says he is impressed by author Anna Fuerstenberg's ability to recreate real life teenage situations. "I skimmed through the script,"

said Grozelle, "and looked at one passage and thought 'That's me.'"

Because the scenes so closely mimic real life, *Blind Dates* poses a tough challenge to the student actors, says Drama teacher Nancy Robichaud. "They're trying to recreate the illusion of reality." She says they quickly learned it is no easy task to play yourself.

Blind Dates is a series of loosely-bound scenes. The common thread is that each snippet is gleaned from the life of a typical teenager. The students re-enact scenes that could easily have been pulled from their own personal daily experiences at school and home.

Except for this, each of the 25 scenes is unconnected. Robichaud describes the scenes as "slices of teenage life." Each "slice" is a window to their feelings and experiences; Each unveils some of the mys-

(more on page 3)

Ministry cuts back its fire staff

Staffing at the Ministry of Natural Resources fire centre in Haliburton will be cut by six men and there will be more onus placed on municipal fire crews as a result of a province-wide move to improve the cost efficiency of the fire-fighting system.

The ministry is cutting back its staffing by 25 per cent province wide. In the Algonquin District, which includes Haliburton County, it is being cut by 46 per cent, or about 170 men.

Tom Russell, head of the Haliburton fire centre, says there will be nine firefighters this summer where

there are normally 15. Instead of having three five-man crews there will be three three-man crews.

Russell will be meeting with the municipal fire chiefs over the next five or six weeks to explain how these changes will affect them. "We will have to rely more on municipalities than in the past. There's no doubt about that." As a result, the municipal fire crews may require more training and equipment related to forest fire suppression, he said.

(more on page 10)



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